THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c) All the issues relating to the restructuring of Department of Telecommunications are under active consideration of the Government and no decision has yet been taken in the matter.

Waiting List of Telephone connections in Andhra Pradesh

415. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) how many persons are on the waiting list for new telephone connections in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) what is the likely date of providing these connections;

(c) what are district headquarterwise details thereof; and

(d) what steps are taken to augment the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Total waiting list for Telephone connecestions in Andhra Pradesh as on 31.10.93 is 198514..

(b) and (d) As per 8th plan objective the waiting period for telephone connection is to be reduced to 2 years in large telephone system and telephone practically on demand in Rural and Tribal areas by the end of 8th Plan Period (1992-97). Expansion of exchange are being planned accordingly to meet the obective.

(c) Details are given as Statement.

Statement

District-wise Waiting List as on 1-11-1993 in Andhra Pradesh

S.No.	Name of the SSA	Waiting List
1	2	3
1	Sangareddy Medak)	2285
2	Kurnool	3928
3	Cuddapah	2393
4	Nellore	4305
5	Guntur	9316
6	Rajahmundry (East Godavari)	8067
7	Karimnagar	4287
8	Khammam	2899
9	Nizamabad	1984
10	Srikakulam	1369
11	Eluru (East Godavari)	5903
12	Rangareddy (HTD Rural)	5856
13	Mahabubnagar	2601
14	Anantapur	3167

1	3
15. Tirupathi (Chittoor)	5874
16. Ongole (Prakasam)	2457
17. Vijayawada	16542
18. Warangal	3517
19. Nalgonda	3517
20. Adilabad	1679
21. Vishakapatnam	14380
22. Vizianagaram	1079
23. Hyderabad (Urban)	93109
Total	198514

Streamlining the Telecommunication Network in Rural areas

416. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that telephone exchanges, PCOs and private telephones are generally defunct and dead in large areas of rural India, and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to streamline the telecommunication network in the rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Telephone exchanges PCOs etc. in rural India are generally not defunct, but there are some specific maintenence problems in many areas of rural India. The Government is aware of it and suitable steps are taken to short-out these problems.

(b) Steps taken to streamline the telecommunication network are given as below:

1. Replacement of manual and electromechanical exchanges by electronic exchanges.

2. Installing new electronic exchanges on large scale.

3. Providing adequate capacity power plant and stand by power supply. Use of nonconventional power energy like solar energy etc. wherever feasible in cases where normal electric supply is not satisfactory.

4. Providing stable media for the circuits linking the rural exchange to the parent exchange.

5. Providing sufficient circuits to provide STD and group dialling facilities.

6. Provision of upgraded out-door plant for sub-lines and providing long distance public telephones and long distance connections on radio systems like MARR.

Expansion Plans to provide Telephones on Demand

417. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering an expansion plan as a result